

FOSTER CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, October 11, 2012

8965 Balboa Avenue, Room 1A

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Present: Nory Behana, Sandra Boelter, Patty Boles, Bernice Briggs, Wendy Curiel, Ali Freedman, Ernie Gomez, Gisela Gomez, Andrea Jackson, Alice Kennedy, Robyn Lefkowitz, Dawn Lewis, Diana Macis, Michele Manley, Twila Perucci, Arleth Rubio, Elaine Shelby, Marilyn Sproat

Minutes

- I. Twila Perucci called the meeting to order. All in attendance made introductions.**
- II. Approval of Agenda/Minutes: Minutes were unanimously approved with no changes.**
- III. Discussion:**

San Diego Foster Parent Association / Pam Sokol

- Halloween costumes for foster children are available at the Association.
- Sleep Train donated mattresses and school supplies to the Association.
- The Association received donations from The Doctors Group at Grossmont Hospital.
- The Association earned \$800 from a recent rummage sale.
- Emergency Shelter Care (ESC) foster homes need to be informed of policy change; foster parents still request that workers write ESC on placement paperwork, but that is no longer required.

HHSA & Child Welfare Services / Alice Kennedy

- Thank you to all who participated in the Foster Family Picnic on September 30!
- CWS Staffing:
 - A new class completed training and will begin their new CWS assignments on October 19.
 - The Hotline Manager vacancy will be filled by Lynn Amabile beginning November 2.

Child Welfare Services Placement Specialists / All

- Central Region / Andrea Jackson
 - Working hard to place children with relatives.
 - Need foster homes to care for sibling groups.
- North Central / Bernice Briggs
 - In need of homes for pregnant and parenting teens.
 - Looking for foster parents to train to care for medically fragile children.

Polinsky Children's Center / Marilyn Sproat

- The current population is around 70 children at Polinsky.

San Diego County Office of Education / Robin Lefkowitz

- College and Career Day at San Diego State was well attended!
- SDCOE attended the Educational Summit in Sacramento.
- Individual Educational Plan evaluations are held every month. Flyer distributed.
- Free training available on current laws affecting students in foster care. Flyer distributed.

San Diego County Adoptions / Gisela Gomez

- Benefit held on September 15, 2012 for the Heart Gallery was well attended.
- Charger calendars will be distributed at the Charger Blood Drive on November 21, and at the Charger's football game on December 2.

Foster Care Education / Nory Behana

- New Training Schedule (Pink Flyer) is now available.
- San Diego State University received a \$1.25 million grant to assist foster youth; funds will be used to train counselors, psychologists, and social workers.

Foster Home Licensing / Diane Macis

- Foster Family Picnic was a great success, with 740 people in attendance.
- *El Latino* magazine will feature a front page cover story about the picnic.
- Taking Care of Business event will be held November 3, 2012 at the Balboa office.
- Emergency Shelter Care protocols are being reviewed.
- Alicia Rogers, Foster Home Licensing Supervisor, has returned from leave.

IV. NEXT MEETING: Thursday, November 8, 2012: 8965 Balboa Avenue, Conference Room 1-A

V. ADJOURNMENT: 1:05 pm